



Rebuild Iowa Office Coordinating Council

July Workshop Review

- Individual Assistance – Julie Struck
- Infrastructure/Public Assistance – Tina Potthoff
- Long-Term Recovery – Susan Dixon

Individual Assistance



Successes

- Funding for case management
- Funding for unmet needs grants
- Mental health services for disaster victims
- Cedar Rapids Corridor Recovery business portal
- SBDC case management for businesses

Individual Assistance



Roadblocks

- Need more flexible state funding
- Lack of centralized information and data
- Federal programs not designed for disaster recovery
- Difficult to provide affordable housing
- Lack of adequate resources and funding

Individual Assistance



Roadblocks (continued)

- Duplication of benefits process
- Restrictions in federal programs
- Foreclosure of damaged properties
- Lack of shared information and data
- Impacted businesses struggling with debt
- Lack of funding for business recovery

Individual Assistance



Action Items and Progress

- Institutionalize case management system
 - Legislation being drafted for 2010 session
- Assist those living in FEMA mobile homes
 - Extension has been requested
- Coordinated system of federal disaster recovery funding
 - Recommendations drafted
- Expedite buyouts
 - CDBG buy-outs ready to be approved, FEMA underway

Individual Assistance



Action Items and Progress (continued)

- Track impacts of funding
 - Survey work with communities on impacts
- Expedite applications in Jumpstart Housing Program
- Provide support for Long-term Recovery Committees
- Protect impacted homeowners from foreclosure
- Identify & assist displaced renters
- Continue mental health response team training

Individual Assistance



Milestones

- Process the remaining Jumpstart applicants
 - \$\$\$ expended so far
- Find permanent housing solutions quickly
 - 146 remain in FEMA mobile homes
- 2010 New Housing Production Program
 - Proposal under review
- Achieve federal disaster recovery changes
 - Recommendations drafted

Infrastructure/Public Assistance



Successes

- Most FEMA Public Assistance projects have been approved
- I-Jobs funding for improved infrastructure
- Funding for flood plain mapping using LiDAR

Infrastructure/Public Assistance



Roadblocks

- Lack of funding for infrastructure maintenance
- Improvements and relocations require more time and effort, lack funding
- Flood insurance for public buildings often unaffordable
- Federal restrictions slow the process

Infrastructure/Public Assistance



Roadblocks (continued)

- Not enough staffing to do disaster work quickly
- Lack of restrictions on development in flood plains
- Flood plain mapping is not accurate statewide
- Planning takes time and quick decisions are needed
- Funding cuts impact recovery negatively

Infrastructure/Public Assistance



Action Items and Progress

- Move facilities out of flood plain wherever possible
 - Several funding sources available
- Complete new flood plain maps & modeling
 - LiDAR data gathering nearly complete
- Consider new land use rules
 - Legislation being drafted for 2010 session
- Do not rebuild in flood-prone areas
 - Legislation being drafted for 2010 session

Infrastructure/Public Assistance



Action Items and Progress (continued)

- Educate community leaders and citizens about hazards and mitigation
 - RIO Flood Forums, etc.
- Create more comprehensive guidelines for locating government property
 - Governor's Executive Order No. 17
- Strengthen Iowa Emergency Management Code and role of emergency management

Infrastructure/Public Assistance



Milestones

- Complete new flood plain mapping
 - LiDAR data collection and pilot project underway
- Complete FEMA Public Assistance process
 - Nearly all project worksheets written
- Move and rebuild new outside the flood plain
- Integrated local planning for disaster mitigation

Long-Term Recovery



Successes

- COGs assist in planning
- IDED working on pilot projects to integrate “green strategies” in community development
- Assistance in helping to move historically significant properties out of flood plain

Long-Term Recovery



Roadblocks

- Many communities lack resources for comprehensive planning
- Recovery takes longer with greater planning
- Lack of coordination at all levels of government
- Many different regional boundaries for planning
- State funds development in flood plains
- 40% communities do not have building codes

Long-Term Recovery



Action Items and Progress

- Adopt and promote Smart Planning Principles
 - Legislation being drafted for 2010 session
- Complete accurate flood plain mapping
 - LiDAR data gathering and pilot project underway
- Increase purchase of flood insurance
 - Recommendations to legislature pending
- Increase multi-jurisdictional cooperation
 - Legislation being drafted for 2010 session

Long-Term Recovery



Action Items and Progress (continued)

- Support community planning
 - RIO staff assistance, 2010 legislation
- Advocate for coordinated system for federal disaster recovery
 - Recommendations drafted
- Planning for protection and recovery of documents
 - Cultural Affairs grant application
- Consider quality of life as we rebuild
 - Governor's Executive Order No. 17

Long-Term Recovery



Action Items and Progress (continued)

- More incentives for arts and cultural projects
- Better planning for special needs disaster response
- Standardize emergency management funding, duties, reporting
- Create alternate areas for development outside flood plain
- Award funds based on Smart Planning Principles

Long-Term Recovery



Milestones

- Increase use of comprehensive planning
- Adopt Smart Planning Principles
- Increase number of communities enforcing building codes
- Foster Regional Planning
 - Legislation being drafted for 2010 session

Next Steps



Questions?

Comments?

Suggestions?